March 6, 2018

Dear Representative LaFave,

After reading over HB 4106 in its entirety, I am pleased to write this letter of support of such.

As a lifelong educator in Michigan, and an administrator for four years in a K-12 building, I have struggled in recent years to provide guidance to many High School students who don't 'fit the mold' of the Michigan Merit Curriculum. Largely, this is due to the missing component of a realistic work study program. By realistic I mean one that works for not only the student, but the school system and the businesses as well. I am fully aware of the work based learning experience (WBLE) that is supposed to make work study credit available to students. What the persons who designed that program did not realize is that it would be useless to rural schools where most of the small businesses who might participate in such, are deemed unfit in terms of the high requirements of liability insurance. In addition, the complexity of that program is near enough to scare off most that come across it. I realize the need for the protection of student, business and school; and that is why HB 4106 works so well…because it keeps the protective insurance in place in the form of workers compensation, but also considers the aspects of the small business and small school while still remaining quite simple by design.

I was so pleased to read HB 4106, which looks to make the possibility of work study credits more attainable and meaningful to Michigan students. The need for this bill is dire in our state and particularly so for the many smaller, rural schools which have long educated the hard working residents of this State.

I cannot thank you enough for your work in helping us better educate **all** of the youth of the great State of Michigan. I very much look forward to seeing what is next on your agenda at the Capital.

My most sincere thanks,

John

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